

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Art Unit 2628
Conf. No.: 1102

Patterson et al.

Application No.: 09/858,336

Filed: May 15, 2001

For: IMAGE MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM AND METHODS
USING DIGITAL
WATERMARKSVIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Examiner: Jin Cheng Wang

Date: July 11, 2006

STATEMENT RESPONDING TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.104(e) ("Reasons for Allowance"), and is responsive to the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in the Notice of Allowability dated April 12, 2006.

Applicant respectfully submits that the allowability of the claims does not hinge on isolated elements thereof. Rather, the claims are believed patentable because, when viewed as a whole, they define combinations that are neither anticipated by, nor obvious over, the prior art.

Date: July 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

CUSTOMER NUMBER 23735

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